



LOOKING UP!

By Matt Huddleston

Time flies; but remember, you are the navigator. On December 24th, 1848, Abraham Lincoln responded to his stepbrother's request for a loan. John D Johnson had written to Abe indicating that he was "broke and hard-pressed" back on the family farm in Illinois. John needed a loan for \$80 to get him back on his feet.

Lincoln's response is a classic. He came up with what we would call today a "matching grant" offer way before its time. In the end, Lincoln promised to pay John a dollar for each dollar he earned on his own. So if John earned \$10 per month Abe would match it dollar for dollar and John would come home with \$20. But listen to Lincoln's honesty and assessment of John's root problem. "Your request for \$80, I do not think it best to comply with now. At the various times when I have helped you a little, you have said to me, 'we can get along very well now,' but in a very short time I find you in the same difficulty again. Now this can only happen by some defect in your conduct. What that defect is, I think I know. You are not lazy, and still you are an idler. . . . This habit of uselessly wasting time is a whole difficulty; It is vastly important to you, and still more so to your children, that you should break this habit."

What we love to do we find time to do. In other words, your year will be what you make it. Seek first things first, and all else will take care of itself. Seek your pleasure and peace first, and you will run out of time. I lift up my eyes to the hills-- where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

SERMON NOTES

Greater Than - Less Than

January 09



What is that one thing that will take forever to accomplish?

- ◆ When _____ are greater, your _____ is less.
- ◆ When _____ is greater, your _____ are less.
- ◆ Your use of _____ clarifies your _____ and your _____.

With _____ and _____, we, the South Fork family, _____ to _____ our three resources (_____, _____, and _____) in life with the _____, _____, and _____, so the _____ is empowered and equipped to share the _____ to the _____.

PRAYER LIST

Satan says, "_____."

JAN. 16, 2022

NEH. 1:17-18

Next Week:

LET US
MATT HUDDLESTON

PERSONAL STUDY

It is rewarding to invest time each day in God's Word.

Mo Psalm 42:5

Start your work week with personal reflection. Is your heart, soul, mind, and strength coming from personal ambition, or is your hope in the Lord?

Tu Psalm 103:1-2

Call on the Lord to lead and even bless your life. Give him the power to guide and direct you today. Calm your fears as you relinquish control by recounting all that He has done.

We Psalm 146:1-2

Take time to praise your Father. Sing a song of praise while you drive to work. Choose one attribute of God's character, and then at each meal, let that characteristic lead your thoughts of praise.

Th Psalm 103:21-22

Notice the passage of time today. Find God's presence in the sunrise, the sunset, the stars, your friends, a chance encounter, and the work He gives you. God is with you all day and even through the night.

Fr 1 Peter 5:8

We have focused our minds on God each day this week. Today, pay attention to the effects of the devil in your world. Where and when does he attack? Ask God to awaken you to your weak moments.

Sa Galatians 2:20

Let this verse be your mantra through the weekend. You have decided how you will live and why you want to live this way. Evil thoughts and desires have been crucified. Live today with Christ in you!

STUDY & DISCUSS

- Read Nehemiah 9:5b-6.
 - How can you mirror Nehemiah's prayer of praise for some of the recent events in your life?
 - How did Nehemiah's faith at the beginning of the problem (Neh. 1:3-11) set him on the course for success?
- Are there moments or relationships in your life right now where your perspective is clouded, and you are missing what God is doing or leading you to do?
- Read 2 Timothy 2:15. Are you preparing for the upcoming challenges? Are you proactive in learning? Do you seek God's Word in advance of difficult times? To be ready to seize the day, we must prepare today.
- Read Proverbs 6:6-11. A sluggard hesitates by saying, "Why do today what can be put off till tomorrow." What is something you have been sluggish to tackle? Evaluate your faith and fear.
- Romans 12:2 teaches us to renew our minds. What we think about and how we believe significantly affect our lives. Procrastination is a great killer of initiative and opportunity. Setting out your gym clothes the night before increases the likelihood of going to the gym in the morning. What can you do to increase your time and participation with:
 - God's Word
 - God's People
 - God's Spirit